

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 015622
ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-03 L-03 EB-08 SCA-01 H-01 INR-07
DLOS-06 PRS-01 CG-00 DOTE-00 SS-15 TRSE-00 COME-00
SAL-01 OES-06 NSC-05 PM-04 /072 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/AND/P:ASCFULLER:MMS
APPROVED BY ARA/AND:FJDEVINE
OES/OFA - BHALLMAN (PHONE)
ARA/AND/E - JAALLITTO

-----250510Z 031457 /13

R 242219Z JAN 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY QUITO
INFO AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL
AMEMBASSY LIMA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 015622

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, EC

SUBJECT: FISHING BOAT INCIDENT

REFERENCE: QUITO 402, QUITO 426, QUITO 508

1. THE DEPT APPRECIATES THE FEELINGS OF THE ECUADOREAN NAVY AND THE INTEREST OF THE EMBASSY IN THE ISSUANCE OF A STATEMENT CLARIFYING THE TUNABOAT INCIDENT. HOWEVER, WE WILL HAVE TO TAKE THE FOLLOWING INTO CONSIDERATION:

A) THE AFP STORY IN ECUADOR WAS PROBABLY BASED ON AN AP STORY DATED SAN DIEGO, JANUARY 14. THE LATTER IN ITS ENTIRETY WOULD APPEAR TO BE MUCH MORE DAMAGING THAN THE VERSIONS PUBLISHED IN THE ECUADOR PRESS. THE FULL TEXT OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE AP STORY IS BEING REPORTED SEPTTEL.

B) THE SOURCE OF THE AP STORY WAS THE AMERICAN TUNABOAT ASSOCIATION (ATA), WHICH STANDS BY ITS ACCOUNT AND IS NOT, REPEAT NOT, DISPOSED TO ISSUE ANY RETRACTION OR CORRECTION.

C) THE ATA REPORTED THAT CONTACT HAD BEEN REESTABLISHED

WITH THE "CINDY ANN" AND THE FACT OF A CHASE BY NAVAL CRAFT CONFIRMED. THE LOCATION OF THE CHASE WAS 1 DEGREE 45 MINUTES SOUTH, 84 DEGREES 20 MINUTES WEST -- BETWEEN

THE MAINLAND OF ECUADOR AND THE GALAPAGOS ISLANDS. THE "CINDY ANN" CAPTAIN ASSUMED THAT NAVAL CRAFT THERE COULD ONLY BE ECUADOREAN.

D) THE "CINDY ANN" SUCCESSFULLY EVADED THE NAVAL CRAFT AND HAS NOW RETURNED TO FISHING. IT HAS NO, REPEAT NO, LICENSE.

2. GIVEN THE CIRCUMSTANCES, THE DEPT DOES NOT BELIEVE ANY PUBLIC STATEMENT BY THE USG, EITHER HERE OR IN QUITO, WOULD BE DESIRABLE. WE CANNOT STATE, AS THE EMBASSY SUGGESTS, THAT IT IS "HIGHLY UNLIKELY" ECUADOR WAS INVOLVED. TO SAY INSTEAD THAT WE HAVE NO CONFIRMATION ECUADOR WAS INVOLVED WOULD ALSO BE TO QUESTION THE ATA ACCOUNT AND RUN THE RISK OF DRAWING ANOTHER, MORE DAMAGING, PRESS STORY FROM SAN DIEGO. NOR CAN WE STATE THAT ALL US TUNABOATS ARE OBTAINING LICENSES. MOST MAY BE BUT NOT ALL.

3. THE DEPT BELIEVES THE BEST COURSE AT THIS POINT IS FOR THE EMBASSY INFORMALLY TO EXPRESS TO THE ECUADOREAN NAVY REGRET OVER THE INCIDENT AND HOPE THERE WILL NOT BE A RECURRENCE. NO FURTHER SPECIFICITY WOULD BE JUSTIFIED, BEYOND AN EXPRESSION OF APPRECIATION FOR THE APPARENT ECUADOREAN NAVY INTEREST IN EXERCISING RESTRAINT AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONTINUING THE "TRUCE".

4. FYI: NO QUESTIONS WERE ASKED BY THE PRESS HERE.

VANCE

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PAGE 01 STATE 015622
ORIGIN ARA-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /004 R

66011

DRAFTED BY ARA/AND:ASCFULLER

APPROVED BY ARA/AND:ASCFULLER

-----280846Z 079529 /11

R 271530Z JAN 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 015622

FOR REGIONAL FISHERIES ATTACHE

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 15622 ACTION QUITO INFO

GUAYAQUIL 24 JAN 77

QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 015622

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REGRET OVER THE INCIDENT AND HOPE THERE WILL NOT BE A
RECURRENCE. NO FURTHER SPECIFICITY WOULD BE JUSTIFIED,
BEYOND AN EXPRESSION OF APPRECIATION FOR THE APPARENT
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4. FYI: NO QUESTIONS WERE ASKED BY THE PRESS HERE.

VANCE UNQUOTE.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SHIP HARASSMENT, FISHING BOATS, FISHING REGULATIONS, LICENSES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE015622
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: ASCFULLER:MMS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770026-0228
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770123/aaaaaugp.tel
Line Count: 210
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b40e2bd2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 QUITO 402, 77 QUITO 426, 77 QUITO 508
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3518301
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FISHING BOAT INCIDENT
TAGS: EFIS, EC
To: QUITO
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b40e2bd2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009